

# BORDER CONDITIONS

Marc Schoonderbeek (ed)

- 1.1 ZONE
- 1.2 FRAMING
- 2.1 EDGE
- 2.2 TRANSGRESSION
- 3.1 NAVIGATION
- 4.1 TRAJECTORIES
- 4.2 INTERFACES
- 4.3 FIELDS

## BORDER CONDITIONS

SAN DIEGO — TIJUANA

BERLIN

NICOSIA

TALLINN

MARSEILLE

BERLIN

GIBRALTAR — CEUTA

GIBRALTAR

TALLINN

NICOSIA

ANTWERP

BENIDORM

MARSEILLE

BELFAST — NICOSIA

TALLINN

NICOSIA

BENIDORM

ROTTERDAM

TALLINN

BERLIN

LIÈGE

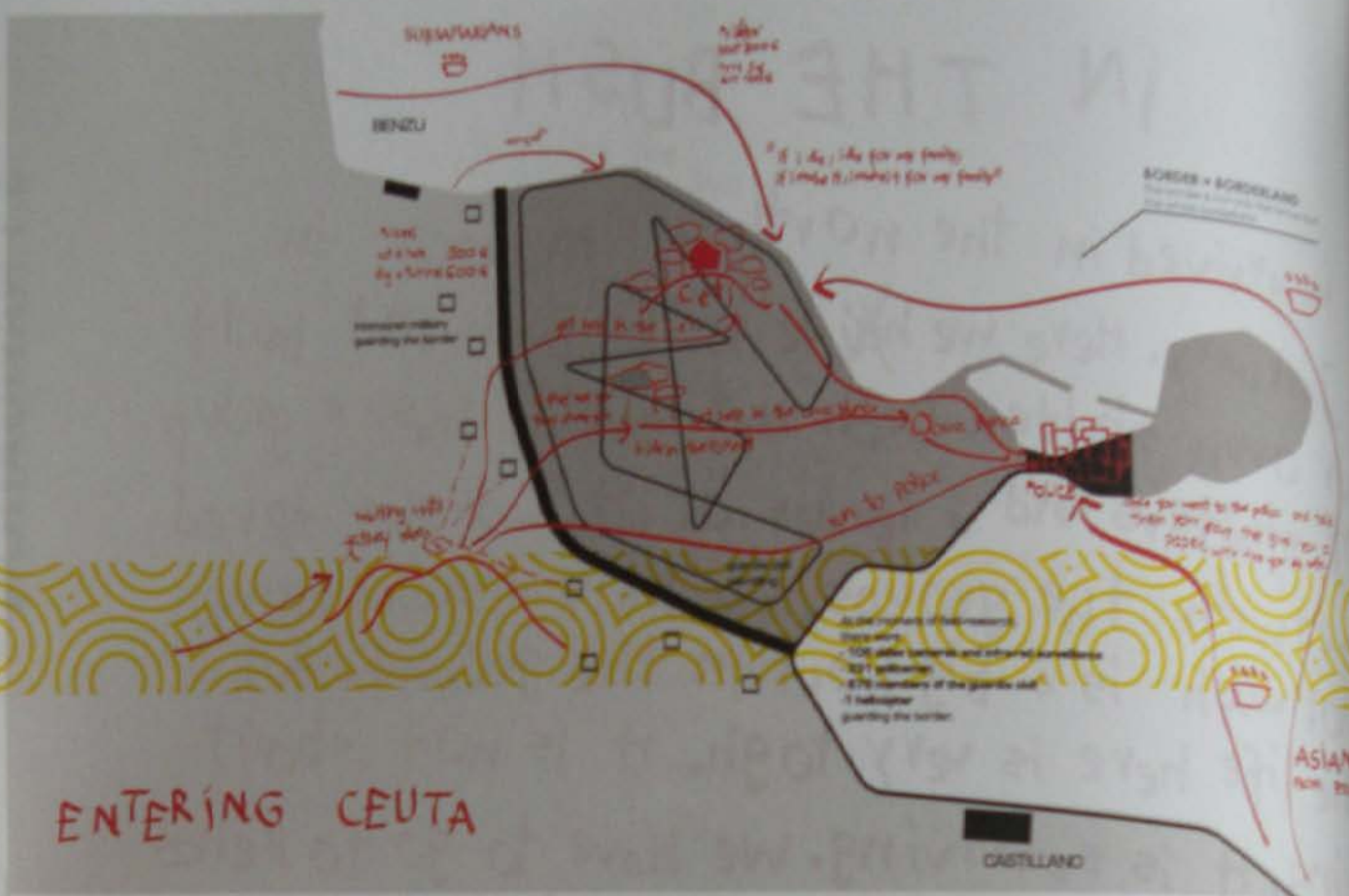
SINGAPORE

ISTANBUL

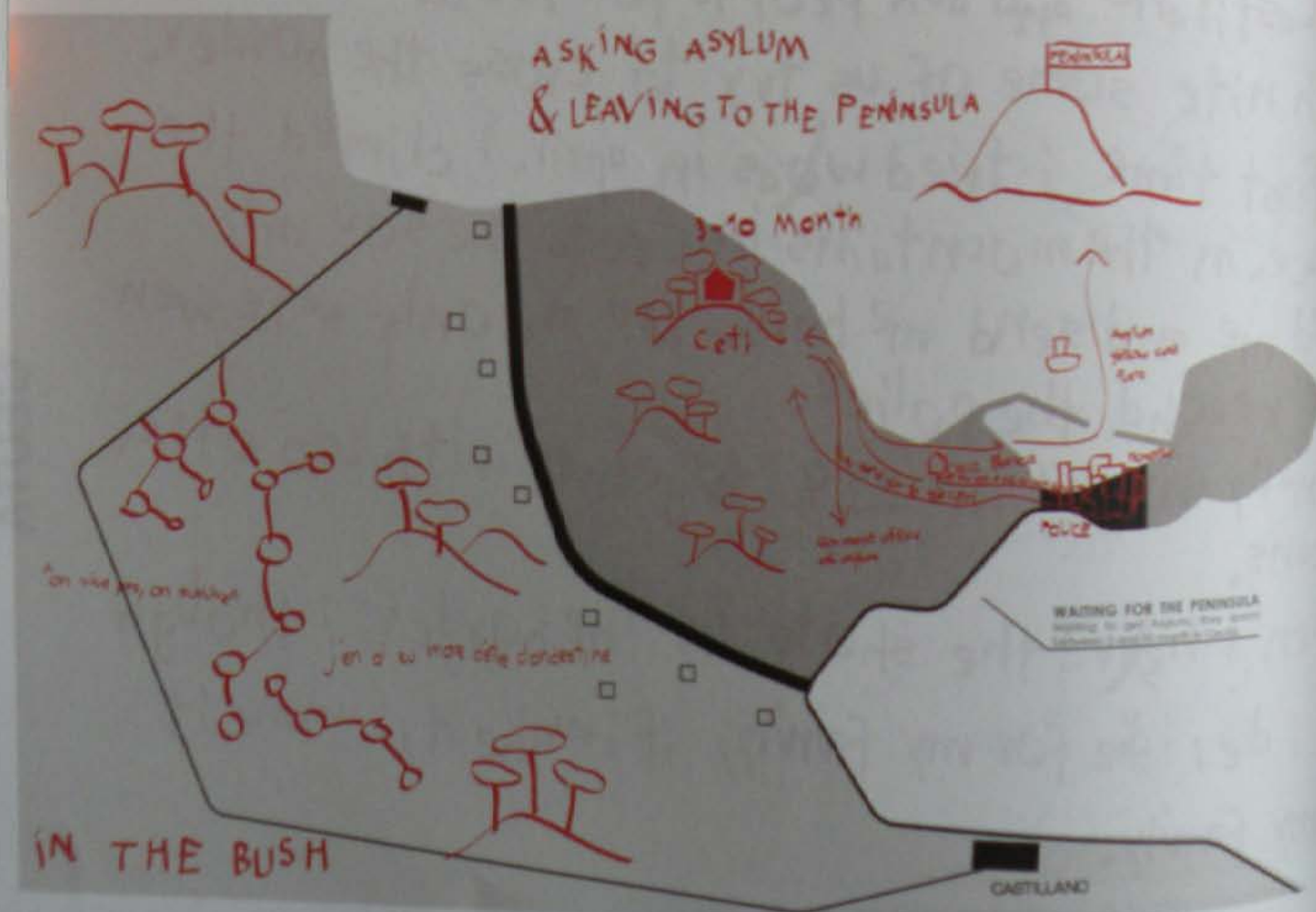
MAASTRICHT

A&NP

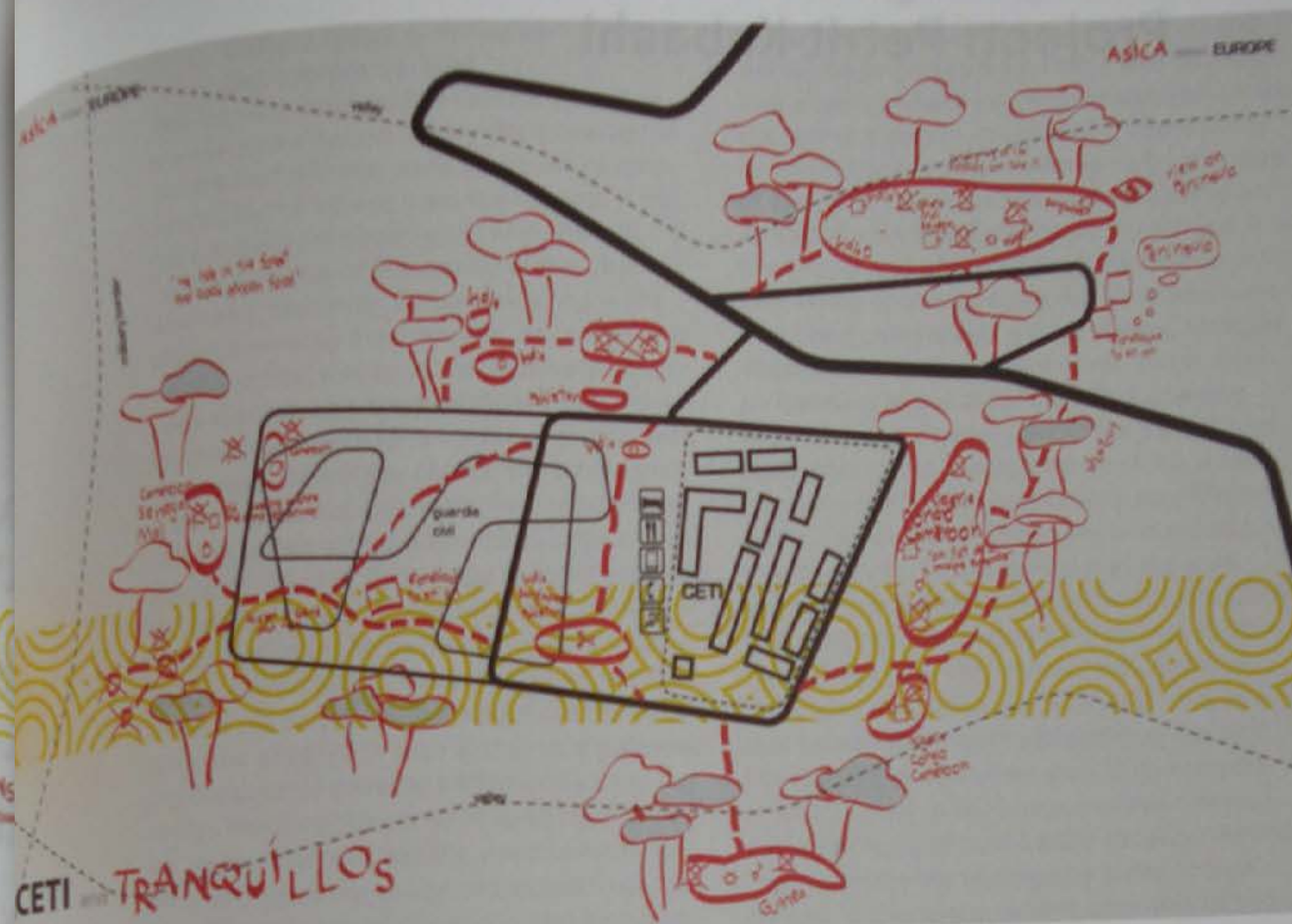




ENTERING CEUTA



IN THE BUSH



CETI TRANQUILLOS

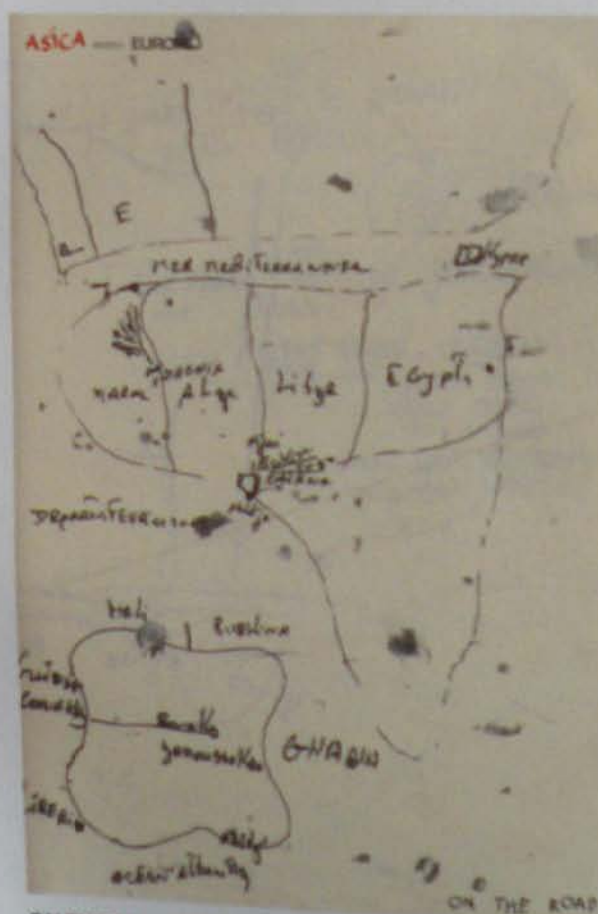
CETI = Centro de Estancia Temporal de Inmigrantes.

The TRANQUILLOS (the name given by 'new immigrants' to the informally created landscape around the camp), consist of platforms set up in the woods around the CETI. Here, the immigrants create space that fulfils their personal needs, including privacy, cooking, making music or simply getting together. This lively landscape directly reflects the African/Asian (use of) space in the informal camp of 6,000 future immigrants in the Moroccan woods before they cross the border into Europe!



## ON THE ROAD

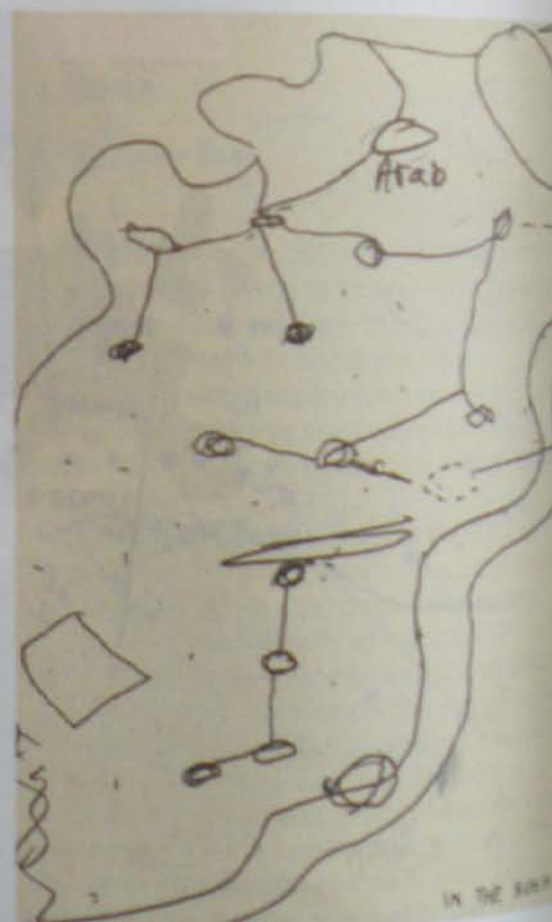
I hit the road in Ghana on the 20-5-2004. First I travelled with the bus through Burkina Faso to get to Niger. I spent one month to make some money to travel further. In Tamarasset, Algeria, I spent 6 month working on a construction site. From here we start the Sahara - crossing on Pic-up trucks. The crossing is very dangerous. Many people die in the desert. They leave us before the border to Morocco. Here we cross the mountains to get to Morocco. From here I walked 800 kilometer to the border of Ceuta.



ON THE ROAD-BABA-Gambia-28.10.2005-mental map

## IN THE BUSH

I arrived in the north of Morocco in January. Here we hide in the bush and built our own shelter. Each nationality has a group of shelters and a leader of it. Couples spread between the groups. We have a swimming pool which is a big hole in the ground. But the life here is very tough. It is not about living, it is surviving. We have to go to Benzu or Castilano and ask people for food. Each nite some of us try to cross the border. The first time I tried was in April. I climbed the fence. In the mountains in Ceuta the sou me, chased me and send me back. You are only safe when you reached the police. I finally entered the 29.9. together with 200 other Africans. When I heard the shots in the border, I thought if I die, I die for my family, if I make it, I make it for my family.



IN THE BUSH-ABOU-Ghana-28.10.2005-mental map



# HOMELESS: Navigating the Border Project: Petra Pferdmenges



The maps, drawn by illegal immigrants in Ceuta, express the personal spatial understanding of illegal immigration from Asia and Africa to Europe. With the increasing gap in wealth between these continents, and since the establishment of the EU, almost every young African male, as well as many Asians, leave their homes in the hope of finding work in Europe and being able to send money back to their families. These illegal immigrants take different routes with different entering spots into Europe. One of them is Ceuta, a Spanish exclave on the African continent.

On their long and dangerous journey through Africa, the immigrants live in informal camps with self-built houses where spaces are defined and created in a bottom-up way. One camp lies just outside of Ceuta in the mountains of Morocco and is inhabited by up to 6,000 future immigrants. The residence period varies between a short-term stay and

up to several years, during which period the immigrants are trying to 'attack' the border into Europe. Coming from this background and having entered Ceuta, the new immigrants keep transforming spaces: they adapt immediately to the European use of space, where spaces tend to be more defined by functions.

The reality in and around the CETI camp, the temporary absorption camp that is isolated from the city, does correspond with the European reality of the city. More importantly, the isolation of camp and city has a profound influence on the use of space. To analyze this 'Connection of Space and Society', it was necessary to introduce a rigid and precise investigation: two weeks of field research were conducted, during which interviews and workshops were held, pictures taken and simply time spent with the new immigrants and their 'world'.

